

K-ONE CURRICULUM

SEPT 14

On the Move: Brave the unknown with God

Bible Story: Joshua and the Spies • *Numbers 13–14*

Bottom Line: God can give you courage when others are afraid.

Monthly Memory Verse: *When I'm afraid, I put my trust in you.* Psalm 56:3 (NIRV)

SOCIAL ACTIVITY

Opening Activity

What You Need: Offering container

What You Do:

- Greet each kid with a big smile and by name as they arrive!
- Invite anyone who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Gather the kids in a circle.
- Explain that you'll be playing a few games that you might play in the car on a road trip!
- Explain how to play:
 - You will quietly pick a color and an item in your head and start describing it without sharing its color yet.
 - For example, you might say, "This fruit is pretty sour! It grows on a tree and is used to make a drink that many people love!" (*answer: yellow, lemon*)
 - Give the kids time to guess the item.
 - Once someone gets the item right, celebrate them and play another round with a new color and item.
- Play as many rounds as time allows.

Item Suggestions:

- Red: roses, watermelon, a stop sign, a bird, a firetruck, a lobster, a heart
- Green: an apple, a grape, a lime, a plant, broccoli, an avocado, a tractor, a frog, a leaf, money
- Yellow: a banana, corn, a bumblebee, a sun, a lemon, cheese, a rubber duckie, a baby chick
- Orange: a pumpkin, a basketball, a goldfish, a peach, a tiger, a carrot, a fox
- Blue: a bird, the ocean, eyes, peacocks, a shark, jeans, blueberries
- Purple: an eggplant, an octopus, a plum, cabbage, an iris, grapes, grape jelly

What You Say:

"That was SUPER fun! You were like detectives figuring out all the items with the clues given to you! **[Transition]** In today's true story from the Bible, we're going to hear about some really brave spies. They weren't brave because they were the strongest, but because they knew God was with them. He is the strongest! Let's go!"

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY

1. Label It! Story Review

What You Need: Blank name labels, and "Story Script" Activity Page

What You Do:

- Before you begin, use the permanent marker to write the following names on labels:
 - Moses
 - Joshua
 - Caleb
 - Spies (up to 10)
 - Canaanites (only two)
- Give a label to each kid and direct them to stick it on their shirts.
- Ensure they know which role they're pretending to be.
- Group the kids playing the "spies" together and the kids playing the "Canaanites" together.
- Say, "We're going to act out our Bible Story today! When you hear your character's name and I nod to you, do what I say in the story."
- Read through the "Story Script" Activity Page, nodding to the kids when it's their turn to "act."
- After you have acted out the story, use the following questions to discuss:
 - What did you learn from this story?
 - Who was brave even when others were scared? (*Joshua and Caleb!*)
 - Why were Joshua and Caleb brave? (*They knew God was with them and He is the biggest!*)

What You Say:

"Wow! You all acted this story out like pros! Did you notice something super-cool? Joshua and Caleb saw the *same* stuff the other spies saw—the big cities, the strong people—but they didn't freak out. Why? (*Invite responses.*) Well, Joshua and Caleb put their focus on something different than the ten spies did.

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SEPT 14

"Instead of thinking and thinking about how big and strong those giants were, they thought instead about how big and strong and powerful God is. And when they remembered that the biggest One, the strongest One, was with them, it helped them be brave!"

2. Courage or No Courage

What You Need: Floor tape

What You Do:

- Use floor tape to mark a line down the center for your small group area.
- On one side of the line, tape a big checkmark. (*This means, "Yes, that's courage!"*)
- On the other side, tape a big "X." (*This means: "Nope, not courageous."*)
- Explain how to play:
 - You will read a scenario aloud to the group.
 - If someone thinks the kid is showing courage, they are to jump to the checkmark side.
 - If someone thinks the kid is not showing courage, they are to jump to the "X" side.
- Read each scenario twice before allowing the kids to respond.
- Continue in this way until all scenarios have been read.

Scenarios:

- "Your friend dares you to walk along the top of the playground. It's not safe. She says you're afraid, but you ignore her."
- "A kid sees someone getting picked on at lunch . . . and doesn't do anything to help."
- "You find a cool purple pencil on the floor. Later, someone says they lost theirs, and you give it back, even though you're anxious."
- "You don't want to go to P.E./gym because it's new and scary, so you tell your grown-up you won't try it."
- "You're nervous to play piano at your recital, but you still do it, and it goes great!"
- "Your friends are being silly when the teacher leaves the room. But you stay quiet and keep reading like the teacher asked."
- "You're at the pool. Your grown-up is in the pool, ready to catch you. It's a big jump, but you go for it!"
- "You forgot to bring back a book you borrowed. You tell the teacher the truth and apologize."

What You Say:

"Great job, friends! You jumped, you thought, and you used your courage muscles!"

"Here's something big I want you to remember: We all have chances every day to be brave. Sometimes being brave feels easy, and sometimes it's hard. And that's okay. You never have to be brave all on your own! When you choose to follow Jesus, God gives you a gift called the Holy Spirit to live inside you. That means God is ALWAYS with you. He is the biggest and can give you the strength and the courage to face whatever hard thing you're facing.

Nothing is too big for God, and He lives inside of you, so **[Bottom Line] God can give you courage when others are afraid!**"

3. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to sit with you in a tight circle.
- Remind the kids that, **[Bottom Line] "God can give you courage when others are afraid!"**
- Lead the kids in reciting the Bottom Line to themselves.
 - "God can give me courage when I'm afraid!"
- Lead kids in a simple prayer below.
- Add each kid's name, one at a time, as you pray.

What You Say:

"God, thank You for creating us, loving us, and caring for us no matter what!"

"This week, when (*Kid's name*) is afraid, help (*Kid's name*) remember You are with them, You are the biggest, and You face everything with them! Help (*Kid's name*) be brave.

(Repeat the lines above for every kid around the circle.)

"We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to share today's Bible Story and the truth that God, the biggest, goes with us to face everything. He can give us courage when others are afraid!